VISION
To substantially reduce the impact of infectious diseases in the military population through collaborative clinical research.

MISSION
To conduct multicenter infectious diseases clinical research, focusing on high-impact cohort and interventional trials, and to inform and improve care of the Warfighter.

Strategic Aims

Aim 1: Plan, execute, and disseminate clinical infectious diseases research of relevance and impact for the US military

Aim 2: Establish, maintain, and augment collaborative relationships with partner Department of Defense (DoD) and Interagency organizations

Aim 3: Align and support infectious diseases clinical investigator education and training among military officers (“Building the Bench”)

Aim 4: Develop and sustain a robust military clinical research network, with capability to execute US Food and Drug Administration-regulated clinical trials

THE INFECTIOUS DISEASE CLINICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM is a Department of Defense (DoD) Research Center based at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) and operates in collaboration with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). The IDCRP has seven research areas (detailed inside) to address clinical questions of military-relevant infectious disease threats. IDCRP research provides a bridge between DoD health surveillance and command-directed product development efforts from research and development organizations. Success requires broad collaborations among healthcare facilities within the Military Health System, NIAID investigators, as well as affiliations with partners from other US government agencies, academia, and industry. The IDCRP is executed as a research center through USU via a cooperative agreement with the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, Inc. (HJF).
IDCRP RESEARCH AREAS:

ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS
- Study the distribution, etiology, clinical features, and burden of influenza-like illnesses and other respiratory infections in active-duty service members and their families
- Evaluate novel diagnostic platforms for clinical use and characterize the host immune response to identify those at risk for severe disease
- Investigate the impact of vaccination and novel therapies on acquisition, clinical course, and outcomes of influenza infection to improve the effectiveness of control strategies
- Characterize severe, epidemic, or emerging respiratory threats to generate evidence to refine therapeutic and preventive measures

DEPLOYMENT AND TRAVEL-RELATED INFECTIONS
- Describe key infectious disease syndromes (travelers’ diarrhea [TD], influenza-like illness, vectorborne, and febrile infections) among high-risk deployments and military exercises to assess operational impact and the effectiveness of mitigation strategies
- Evaluate knowledge of infectious disease threats and provider practices relevant to Force Health Protection and travel medicine
- Assess field expedient diagnostic test platforms for TD, vectorborne, and febrile infections
- Evaluate safety and effectiveness of novel TD preventive and treatment strategies, with a focus on clinical trials relevant to Force Health Protection

EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE
- Evaluate the health burden of emerging infectious diseases among DoD beneficiaries, with a focus on high-consequence pathogens and/or militarily-relevant infections
- Establish and maintain contingency protocols at military hospitals that facilitate clinical research for characterizing exposure risks, clinical outcomes, and other epidemiologic information needed for the DoD to respond to outbreaks of high-consequence pathogens
- Evaluate multidrug-resistant organisms affecting military personnel with regards to incidence, transmission, resistance mechanisms, clinical outcomes, and effectiveness of therapies
- Coordinate multicenter efforts evaluating trends and practices driving antimicrobial prescribing patterns in support of assessing effectiveness of DoD antibiotic stewardship programs

HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS
- Improve understanding of relevant adverse clinical outcomes attributable to HIV infection and develop strategies to prevent these outcomes
- Improve the diagnosis of HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders, understand the functional consequences in high-demand military settings, and evaluate prevention and treatment strategies
- Improve outcomes of HIV treatment, including optimizing reconstitution of immune system function, with the ultimate goal of functional cure of HIV

SEXUALLY-TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS (STIs)
- Evaluate military and clinical impact of multidrug-resistant gonorrhea and high-risk/high-prevalence STIs among active-duty members
- Develop and test STI prevention efforts among active-duty members to inform DoD public health policy and impact clinical practice
- Evaluate biomedical countermeasures to improve STI treatment outcomes and practices in the military

SKIN AND SOFT-TISSUE INFECTIONS (SSIs)
- Expand understanding of SSIs epidemiology, host factors, and transmission dynamics in military populations to inform prevention and mitigation strategies
- Evaluate novel strategies for treatment and prevention of SSIs due to methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus in congregate military populations, including vaccine-based strategies

TRAUMA-RELATED INFECTIONS
- Describe the epidemiology, clinical characteristics, and outcomes among combat blast-related wounds and infections with a focus on extremity wound infections, invasive fungal wound infections, and polytrauma
- Conduct microbiological analyses investigating clinical outcomes associated with bacterial antagonism in wounds, presence of antibiotic resistance genes/virulence mechanisms, and biofilm dispersal
- Evaluate short- and long-term health impacts of combat-related infections through ongoing care in the military and through Veterans Affairs
- Support refinement and development of Joint Trauma System (JTS) Clinical Practice Guidelines and antibiotic stewardship in support of DoD’s Combating Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria Initiatives

For more information, visit www.idcrp.org